<u>Listing of Claims</u>:

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1. (Currently Amended) An absorbent article, comprising:

a top sheet positioned in a face which is adapted to be brought into contact with a human body;

a back sheet positioned in a face which is opposite to the top sheet and is adapted to be brought into contact with underwear; and

an absorbent body interposed between the top sheet and the back sheet;

wherein the back sheet includes a colored area, and the absorbent article itself at the colored area has a light transmittance that allows light outputted from an optical sensor to be transmitted therethrough in a thickness direction; and

wherein the a light transmittance of <u>light transmitted</u>

through the absorbent article itself, including all three of the top sheet, the <u>colored area of the</u> back sheet, and the absorbent body, at the colored area is at least 15% in the thickness direction.

2. (Currently Amended) An absorbent article, comprising: a top sheet positioned in a face which is adapted to be brought into contact with a human body; 5

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a back sheet positioned in a face which is opposite to the top sheet and is adapted to be brought into contact with underwear; and

an absorbent body interposed between the top sheet and the back sheet;

wherein the back sheet includes a colored area and a non-colored area, and an inspection portion which transmits light outputted from an optical sensor for inspection is provided in the non-colored area; and

wherein a light transmittance of <u>light transmitted through</u> the absorbent article itself, including all three of the top sheet, <u>the non-colored area of</u> the back sheet, and the absorbent body , at the inspection portion is at least 15% in a thickness direction.

Claim 3 (Canceled).

- 4. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article according to claim 1, wherein an identification to identify a front-rear orientation of the absorbent article is provided in the colored area.
- 5. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article according to claim 2, wherein an identification to identify a front-rear orientation of the absorbent article is provided in the colored area.

Claim 6 (Canceled).

- 7. (Currently Amended) The absorbent article according to claim 1, wherein the light transmittance of the absorbent article itself at the colored area is 15% to 80% in the thickness direction.
- 8. (Currently Amended) The absorbent article according to claim 2, wherein the light transmittance of the absorbent article itself at the inspection portion is 15% to 80% in the thickness direction.

Claim 9 (Canceled).

- 10. (Currently Amended) The absorbent article according to claim 1, wherein the light transmittance of the absorbent article itself at the colored area is 15% to 55% in the thickness direction.
- 11. (Currently Amended) The absorbent article according to claim 2, wherein the light transmittance of the absorbent article itself at the inspection portion is 15% to 55% in the thickness direction.

Claim 12 (Canceled).